7 Claims

What is claimed in the present invention is

1. A method for discovery of trades between one or more buyers and one or more sellers comprising the steps of:
   (a) expressing one or more terms of an ideal trade and one or more flexibilities by at least one of said buyers;
   (b) expressing one or more capabilities by at least one of said sellers; and
   (c) determining at least one optimal trade with respect to said one or more terms and said one or more flexibilities of said at least one buyer and said one or more capabilities of said at least one seller.
2. A method for discovery of trades between one or more buyers and one or more sellers as in 1, wherein said one or more terms comprise one or more members of the group consisting of continuous factors, discrete factors and range factors.

8 References

[1] Keeney, Ralph L., Raiffa, Howard, *Decisions with Multiple Objectives*, Cambridge University Press:Cambridge, 1993.

[2] Saaty, Thomas L., *The Analytic Network Process*, RWS Publications:Pittsburg, 1996.

[3] A concise introduction to discrete choice analysis with a comparison to conjoint analysis is found at `http://www.action-research.com/discrete.htm`.

[4] Nesterov, Yurii, Nemirovskii, Arkadii, *Interior Point Polynomial Algorithms in Convex Programming*, Society for Industrial and Applied Math:Philadelphia, 1994.

[5] Tsang, Edward, *Foundations of Constraint Satisfaction*, Academic Press:London, 1993.

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